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INFORMATION AND COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS, UNITED NATIONS BODIES, SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Report of the Secretary-General

ANNEX

Submission from the Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates
dated 31 March 1998

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The Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Organization and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Center for Human Rights and with reference to the document E/CN.4/1998/74/Add.1 dated December 26,1998, has the honour to inform that the comments submitted by the non-governmental organizations Human Rights Advocates and World Young Women's Christian Association regarding alleged negative impacts of the legislation regulating the employment of migrant workers in the United Arab Emirates, are baseless.

The UAE Mission would like to mention that the Federal Labour Law No.8 (1980) safeguards the rights of employees vis-a-vis the employer and stresses on their adequate compensation in case of termination of their services and ensures all their legal entitlements and medical insurance. In this context, the U.A.E. Mission would like to mention, as well, that the UAE has ratified many fundamental international labour conventions. Therefore, many Federal Decrees have been issued by the UAE , such as the Federal Decree No.51 (1972) ratifying the Forced Labour Convention (1930) , the Federal Decree No.50 (1996) ratifying the Equal Remuneration Convention No.100 (1951); the Federal Decree no.31 (1957) on the Abolition of Forced Labour, and the Federal Decree No .31 (1996) on the Minimum Age Convention No. 138 (1973).

The UAE Mission was hoping that the Center for Human Rights would provide it with these comments before hand and make sure of their accuracy before publishing them in the documents of the United Nations . Nevertheless, the UAE Mission would like to reconfirm its willingness to fully cooperate with the Center for Human Rights and would like to request to circulate this note as an official document of the United Nations.

The Permanent Mission of the UAE avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Center for Human Rights the assurances of its highest considerations.

Geneva, 31 March 1998